

FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK

Meeting Minutes -August 7, 2016

PRESENT: Karen Grossman, President, Tracy Strauss, Lally Stowell, Marshall McCloskey, Richard Norcross, Bev Williams. The meeting was held at Karen's condo, 32 Hamilton Road, Arlington, and was called to order at 7 pm. Each member has enjoyed seeing many families enjoying the park rental boats.

MINUTES of June 15 were approved as corrected by Karen.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Marshall reported 93 responses to the fund-raising letter since January of 2016. Income of \$3,352 included \$1,770 in dues and \$1,582 in donations. These gifts included large ones of \$100, \$200, \$250, and \$500. The last was a matching gift from Pilgrim Health. Because the donor has since moved, Karen suggested a NOTE in the newsletter asking members to consider Friends of Spy Pond Park if their employer makes grants to nonprofits. Checking account balance as of 8/7 is \$19,724.65. Marshall also passed out a list of all transactions from 6/3 through 8/1.

WEBSITE: Fred Moses continues to update the email list from the database for mailings, and Deepak Bidwai has posted both the newsletters and the board minutes.

BEAUTIFICATION: There were no groups helping in June. Volunteers completed the task of removing all the leaves from the beach near Linwood Circle. In July Charles DeVirgilio's martial arts group and Tufts alumni helped move big logs and did regular park maintenance. The A/B Crew Team will come in August and will be asked to clean up all the brush in the planting beds. Karen reported that the serviceberry bush the DPW ordered as per our request was not acceptable so they ordered another. We hope that it will be replanted in the fall. Karen, Lally and Richard all walked with the new tree warden, Tim Lecuivre, who felt that the new trees in the park had all been planted properly. Emily Snyder of the Garden Club is asking for volunteers to help maintain the RAIN GARDEN. If interested, please contact fspp@friendsofspypondpark.org and Karen will forward your name to Emily. Richard noted that the park looks bigger with some of the over-hanging branches out of the way, providing a better pond view. Conservation Commission has not yet begun the feasibility study for erosion around the entire Pond. The town received a developer's request for building two houses be built on what is now a one house-site within the 100' rule from Spy Pond. While the first hearing was postponed, members are encouraged to attend the second one at Town Hall Annex 2nd floor conference room scheduled presently for the evening of August 18th. There is concern about setting a precedent and using up valuable land that is necessary for filtration of stormwater run-off.

The board APPROVED \$125 toward a new and more visible plaque beside the Swan Sculpture. Kevin Duffy, the sculptor, has made a proposal and will order and install it with Park approval.

We discussed the state of the BENCHES in the grassy area off the Pond Lane parking lot and noted that either a strip of cement, or slab of cement, be put under the bench on the left. Karen will relay our request to DPW.

While the restroom is in better condition than last year, the lock does not work from the outside so the door is open when not in use. It was suggested to put a NOTE with the payment regarding this at the end of the season.

OUTREACH: Elaine Crowder has sent notices of the Work Days and Fun Day on September 10th. Several in attendance offered to post flyers around town. Pinal Manier designed colorful flyers advertising this event. Lally and Marshall will post some around town. Betsy Leonard-Wright needs more volunteers for that afternoon, September 10, and has asked Karen to recruit people for various tasks.

Sally Hempstead sent her report: The Feast of the East Spy Pond table had quite a few visitors. She is all set for Town Day, September 17th. September 15 is the deadline for the Fall Newsletter.

NEXT BOARD MEETING will be on Sunday, October 2, at 7 pm at Karen's home.

Respectfully submitted, Beverly E. Williams, Secretary